



The Professional Doctorate

UNDA Course Codes below
CRICOS Codes below
2017

WHY STUDY AT NOTRE DAME?

The University of Notre Dame Australia is proud of its postgraduate research offerings and caring community atmosphere. Committed to excellence, social justice and the pastoral care of students and staff, Notre Dame empowers students to develop skills and confidence in order to succeed in their chosen field. Notre Dame empowers students to establish and refine their research skills and provides a connected and nurturing environment. Notre Dame's academic staff will guide and advise students throughout their journey toward completion of their research degree.

INTRODUCTION

The professional doctorate seeks to improve the relationship between professional and academic knowledge. In particular, it aims to generate a research-based approach providing answers to questions relevant to the professions or industry and encouraging a systematic way of collecting, analysing and interpreting data. Consequently, prospective students must seek the support of a relevant professional body/employer/industry group in defining the research area to be explored.

The University's Fremantle Campus currently offers Professional Doctorates in the following areas:

- **Doctor of Business Administration**
Course Code 6100 CRICOS Code 040396K
- **Doctor of Counselling**
Course Code 6300 CRICOS Code 074299G
- **Doctor of Education**
Course Code 6200 CRICOS Code 032064G
- **Doctor of Health Sciences**
Course Code 6305 CRICOS Code 074300J
- **Doctor of Natural Resource Management**
Course Code 6700 CRICOS Code 074301G
- **Doctor of Nursing**
Course Code 6301 CRICOS Code 052527E
- **Doctor of Physiotherapy (Research)**
Course Code 6003 CRICOS Code 075781A

SUPERVISION

Each candidate will be assigned University-based supervisors who will provide support and academic guidance throughout the coursework and research components of the degree.

The supervisor will be complemented by a professional mentor, familiar with the intended topic area, who will come from the industry or profession relevant to the student's research area. The professional mentor and research supervisors will continue to mentor and direct the candidate throughout the research phase and up to the point the thesis is put forward for examination.

Before submitting an application, please contact the University's Research Office or relevant School to arrange a discussion with a suitably qualified member of academic staff.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The coursework component is comprised of four compulsory research training units to be completed as a prerequisite to the student's individual research project.

The coursework units will provide opportunities for candidates to formulate substantial elements of their planned research (e.g. topic refinement, identification and justification of the preferred research method(s), preparation of a draft proposal) and to develop personal competencies in critical analysis and scholarly writing relevant to their profession.

Coursework component (maximum of 1/3 of the degree; i.e. a maximum of one year full-time study) includes the following compulsory units:

- Quantitative Research Methods
- Qualitative Research Methods
- Developing a Research Proposal
- Scholarly Reading and Writing

The research component of the degree must be equivalent to a minimum of 2/3 of the degree (i.e. a minimum of two years full-time study)

The completion of the coursework is facilitated by a unit delivery schedule which takes into consideration that a majority of candidates will be in full-time employment during their candidature. An average grade standard of Credit must be achieved in the coursework as a prerequisite for proceeding to the research component.

MODE OF STUDY AND ASSESSMENT

Candidates in the Professional Doctorate program can undertake the course in either a full-time or a part-time capacity. The standard time for completion (not including periods of approved leave of absence) will normally be three calendar years for a full-time student and six years for a part-time student. The assessment of the coursework component consists of written assignments while the research component is assessed by examination of the thesis by external reviewers.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Normally, the following criteria are required for a student to be admitted to the Professional Doctorate:

- Completion of a research Masters degree appropriate to the professional field of the candidate (or equivalent) at a high level of achievement; or
- Completion of a Bachelor's degree with honours (usually level 1 or 2A or equivalent); or
- An equivalent academic or professional background that is considered by the Dean of the School to be an appropriate preparation for independent study and research work at doctoral level.
- A minimum of three years of relevant professional experience;
- Formal support of an industry or professional mentor.

An applicant may be required to demonstrate an ability to understand and communicate in both written and spoken English at a level deemed appropriate by the Dean of the School.

FEES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Domestic Students

In accordance with the *Commonwealth Scholarships Guidelines (Research) 2017*, domestic research students are eligible to have all Higher Degree by Research (HDR) course fees paid for by the Commonwealth Government through a Research Training Program (RTP) Fees Offset Scholarship for the length of their degree.

Domestic students are also encouraged to apply for stipend scholarships. These scholarships are very competitive and are awarded to students of exceptional research potential. The scholarships are for the purpose of assisting with general living costs for the duration of the research degree.

International Students

All international research students are required to pay full fees for the length of their research degree. Please refer to the International Course Guide for current course fees.

The University is also keen to support high calibre international students. International students are also eligible to apply for Commonwealth Government Research Training Program (RTP) Scholarships (Fees Offset and/or Stipend) and the University *International Fee Remission Research Scholarship (IFRRS)*. For more information please refer to the International Prospectus or visit: www.nd.edu.au/research/scholarships.shtml.

FURTHER INFORMATION

The information contained in this publication is designed as a basic course description. Further information pertaining to admissions, fees or the University itself can be found in the Notre Dame Postgraduate Course Guide. International students refer to the International Course Guide.

For more information please contact the Prospective Students Office on (08) 9433 0533 or at future@nd.edu.au

Visit the website at www.nd.edu.au